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The Times



Dispatch

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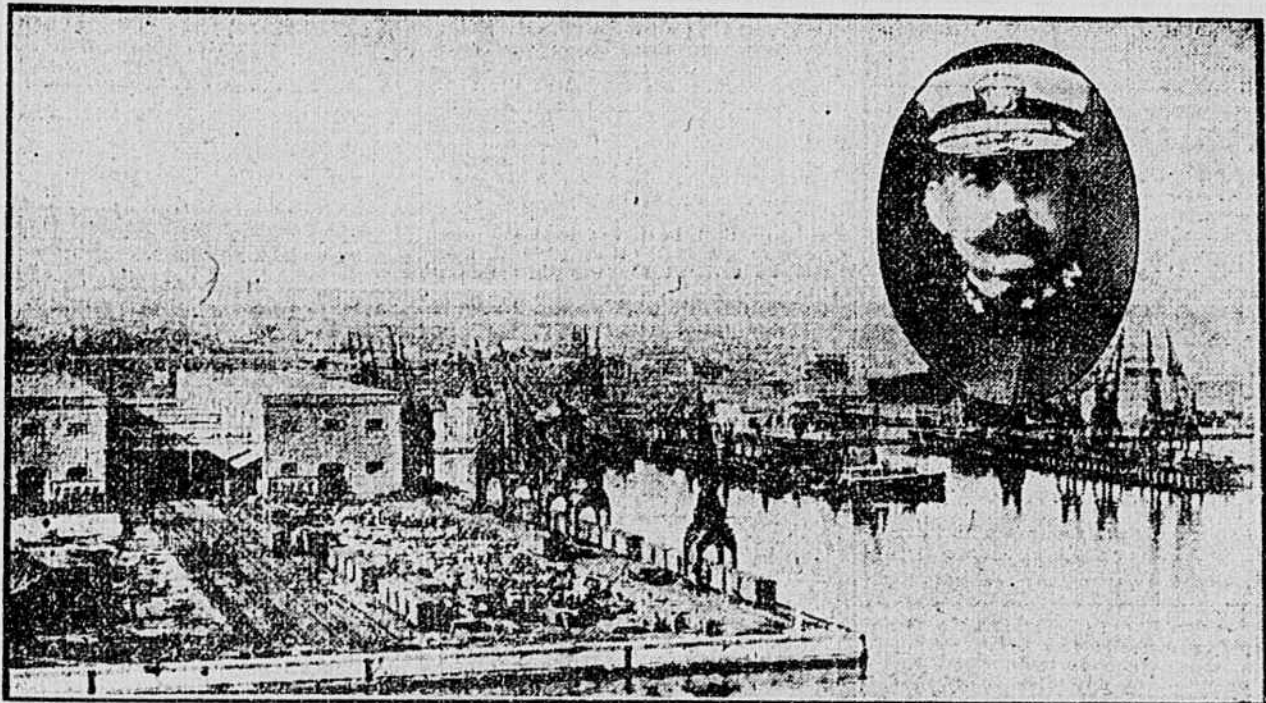
WHOLE NUMBER, 19,693.

RICHMOND, VA., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1914.

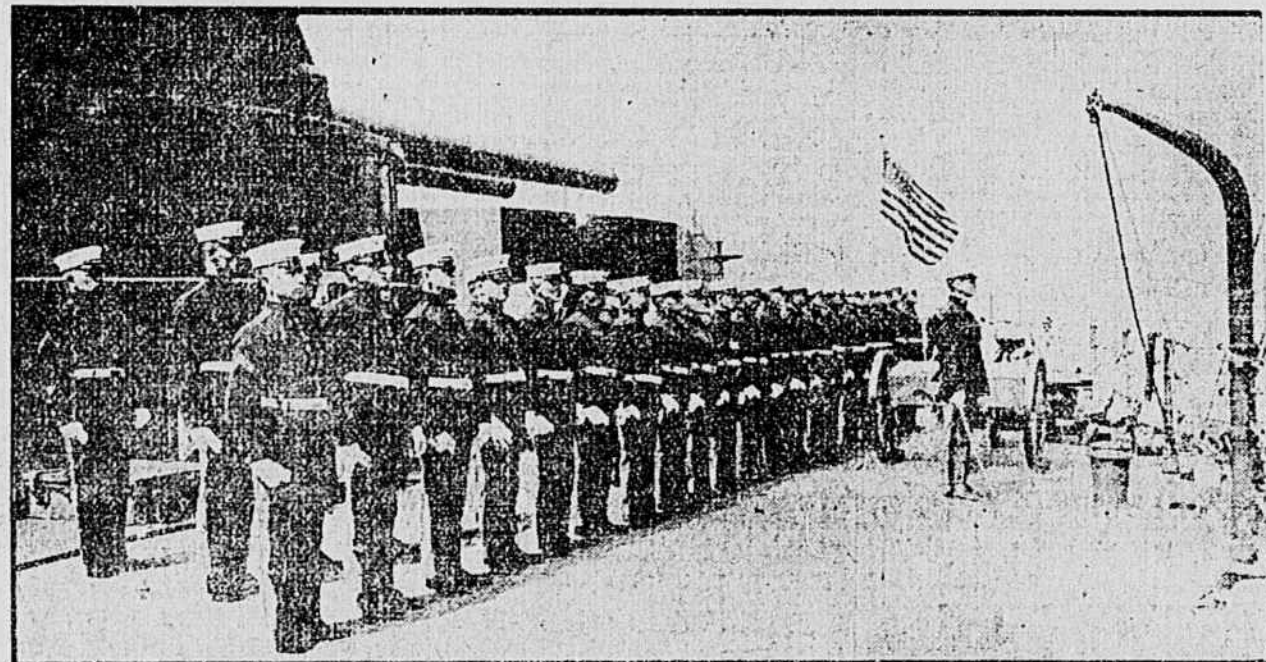
WEATHER TO-DAY—UNSETTLED.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

# AMERICANS OCCUPY VERA CRUZ, LOSS OF 4 KILLED, 20 WOUNDED



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF VERA CRUZ FROM FIGHTING MAST OF BATTLESHIP. INSERT SHOWS REAR-ADMIRAL FLETCHER.



MARINES ON BOARD BATTLESHIP.

## SENATE VOTES TO APPROVE WILSON'S MEXICAN COURSE

Adopts Resolution as It Came From House by Vote of 72 to 13.

IN ALL-NIGHT SESSION

End Comes After Many Hours of Sensational Debate.

Washington, April 22.—The Senate, at 3:21 o'clock this morning, by a vote of 72 to 13, passed the administration resolution bill declaring that "the President is justified in the employment of the armed forces of the United States to enforce his demands for unequivocal amends for the affronts and indignities committed against the United States in Mexico."

Washington, April 22.—The Senate, at 2:40 A. M., by a vote of 47 to 35, rejected the substitute Mexican resolution proposed by Senator Lodge. It would have based the "justification" of the use of force in Mexico on the general conditions there instead of upon the Tampico incident alone.

An amendment proposed by Senator Gallinger "justifying the President in the use of force to protect American citizens in Mexico," as well as to demand reparation for the Tampico incident, was defeated, 43 to 40.

An amendment by Senator La Follette to provide that, after the "subjugation" of Mexico, the United States should retire from that country, leaving Mexico and "every portion of it to its own

(Continued On Ninth Page.)

### AMERICANS OCCUPY PORT OF VERA CRUZ

Loss of Life on Both Sides Results From First Conflict Between Forces.

SURRENDER DEMAND REFUSED  
General Maas, Mexican Commander, Offers Stubborn Resistance to Advance.

Vera Cruz, April 21.—Vera Cruz tonight is in the hands of forces from the United States warships, but the occupation of the port was not accomplished without loss of American lives.

Four Americans, bluejackets and marines, were killed by the fire of the Mexican soldiers, and twenty fell wounded. The Mexican loss is not known, but it is believed to have been heavy.

The water front, the custom-house and all important piers, including those under the terminal wharves, from which extend the railroads to the capital, have been occupied. All the territory around the American consulate is strongly patrolled, and detachments hold other sections of the city.

The Mexican commander, General Gustavo Maas, offered a stubborn resistance to the American advance, and for many hours there was fighting in the streets. Toward midnight it was reported that the main body of the Federal garrison was in retreat to the westward.

These boats effected a landing in the neighborhood of the custom house before noon, and a few minutes later Captain William R. Rush, of the battleship Florida, who was in command of the operations ashore, brought his flag in. Captain Rush's men already had taken up their positions. They numbered 150 bluejackets from the Florida.

(Continued On Ninth Page.)

### CALL FOR MILITIA EXPECTED TO-DAY

Governor and Adjutant-General Discuss Mobilization Plans.

CAVALRY TROOPS NEEDED  
Virginia Soldiers, if Ordered Out, Will Camp on Hermitage Road.

The battle at Vera Cruz yesterday between American marines and the forces of Huerta is expected by the officers of the Virginia Volunteers to mean that an order for the mobilization of the national guard for Mexican service will be issued today or tomorrow. In preparation for a possible order Governor Stuart and Adjutant-General Sale were in conference yesterday in the executive offices outlining plans for the assembling in Richmond of the 2,600 Virginia militiamen, and the placing of the Virginia brigade on a war footing.

In the absence of official communications from Washington neither the Governor nor the Adjutant-General was willing to discuss the situation other than to say that the State is prepared to act within a few hours after a call comes for the assembling of the militia.

"We have no official reason to expect that the Virginia Volunteers will be called upon for service," said the Governor last night. "No communication from the War Department has come

(Continued On Ninth Page.)

### Remember

The contest to decide who is the most popular school teacher in Richmond ends on April 30, at SIX O'CLOCK P. M.

There are just NINE more days during which you will be able to work for your teacher.

Do it now.

Monroe I

In First Clash Between Armed Forces It Is Estimated That 200 Mexicans Are Slain---Fletcher Warns Federal Commander He Will Use Big Guns of American Fleet If His Men Do Not Stop Firing. United States Intends to Take No Offensive Steps at Present, but Aggressive Action by Huerta May Cause Conflict Tantamount to War.

### CHARGE O'SHAUGHNESSY REPORTED MURDERED.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

El Paso, April 21.—It is rumored here that Charge O'Shaughnessy has been murdered in Mexico City.

Washington, April 22.—Neither the War, State nor Navy Departments has received information that O'Shaughnessy has been killed.

### NO ADDITIONAL CASUALTIES REPORTED FROM VERA CRUZ.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Washington, April 21.—Rear-Admiral Fletcher reported to the Navy Department from Vera Cruz under date of 10 P. M. that firing still was in progress. There was no mention of further casualties. The report said: "Shooting continues from near-by houses. No additional casualties."

Washington, April 21.—Marines and bluejackets of the American navy to-day took the custom-house and a large section of Vera Cruz, with a loss of four killed and twenty wounded. The loss of the Mexican garrison was not officially known here to-night, but was estimated at 200 killed. This was the first step in the program of reprisal by the United States against the Huerta government for the arrest of American bluejackets at Tampico and other offenses "against the rights and dignity of the United States."

It was the first clash between forces of the United States and Mexico, since revolution broke out in the southern republic in 1910 and gave the Washington government a Mexican problem.

Though fighting had not ceased at a late hour to-night, Rear-Admiral Fletcher had warned the Federal commander that he would use the big guns of the American fleet if his men did not stop firing.

The American forces had orders to fire only to defend themselves. The United States intends to take no offensive steps for the present. The salute to the flag, which Huerta refused, will not be satisfactory reparation. It is understood a declaration of apology as well as a salute and a guarantee that the rights and dignity of the United States would be respected can alone cause a withdrawal of the American forces.

### SENATE DEBATES WHILE FORCES FIGHT.

While American marines and bluejackets were fighting, the Senate debated the whole Mexican situation before crowded galleries.

The joint resolution that passed the House supporting the President's proposal to use the army and navy to obtain reparation was being debated in the Senate at midnight, with prospect of an all-night session. Many Republican Senators wanted the resolution broadened to authorize steps to obtain reparation for all offenses committed against Americans in Mexico.

The administration Senators fought this as tantamount to a declaration of war, saying the United States had no quarrel with the Mexican people, but with the Huerta government, controlling a small portion of it.

The President went ahead on the authority of the executive in accord with precedent, because he believed an emergency existed. He gave Rear-Admiral Fletcher authority to seize the Vera Cruz custom-house to prevent the landing there to-day by a German merchant vessel of a big consignment of arms and ammunition for the Huerta government.

Secretary Bryan conferred with the German ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, and it is believed the influence of the German government will be interposed to prevent the consignment from landing elsewhere in Mexico and complicating the situation. The ship carries 15,000,000 rounds of ammunition and 200 rapid-fire guns and thousands of rifles.

### PRESIDENT HOPES TO AVERT WAR.

The President conferred with the Secretaries of War, State and Navy early to-night. No army orders were issued, but Rear-Admiral Badger was ordered to Tampico, where another custom-house may be seized. The President intends to act slowly to force Huerta to yield, and hopes to avert war. With the taking of the railroad for a few miles inland from Vera Cruz, and the two custom-houses, it is believed no other aggressive steps will be taken. Many officials admit that offensive action by Huerta may draw the American forces into a conflict tantamount to war. All preparation possible has been made by the army and navy, but no orders have gone out to State militia, nor has the naval militia been called upon.

Joint plans of the army and navy were worked over at the departments during the night, and the wireless, the cable and the telegraph carried scores of government orders, making preparations for all eventualities.

The national capital was thrilled with excitement. Crowds thronged the Senate and listened to the debate. Newspaper bulletins were eagerly read by thousands, as were the frequent extra editions. In executive quarters clerks and officers of the army and navy were busily at work all night. Cabinet members were at their desks after midnight, and the whole executive machinery of the government was adjusted to the Mexican crisis.

### HURRIED CONFERENCE AT WHITE HOUSE.

Rear-Admiral Fletcher's dispatch came by cable, and reached here at 6 P. M. A hurried conference was called at the White House, President Wilson summoned Secretaries Bryan, Garrison

and Daniels. They were in conference for an hour, emerging serious-faced.

"First blood has been spilled," said a White House official.

Secretary Bryan left the White House for the German embassy, where he discussed with the German ambassador the consignment of arms for Huerta aboard a German merchant vessel due to be landed in Vera Cruz to-night. The capture of the Vera Cruz custom-house was ordered by the American government to prevent the big shipment of ammunition and machine guns from getting into Huerta's hands.

Congress has discussed all day the resolution which would give approval to the President's purposes to use the army and navy in the Mexican situation. The Senate has recessed until 8 P. M., while the House adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock. Senate leaders had agreed to take final action to-night.

The Navy Department announced that the United States forces in Vera Cruz and vicinity consisted of the battleships Florida, Utah, Connecticut, Minnesota and the cruisers San Francisco and Chester, gunboat Dolphin, transports Prairie and Hancock, hospital ship Solace and collier Cyclops, as well as the chartered steamers Esperanza and Mexico.

### CONCENTRATION OF FORCES.

The concentration of forces, totaling about 7,000 sailors and nearly 2,000 marines, is made up of Rear-Admiral Mayo's ships, which had been ordered from Tampico late yesterday, and the ships which Rear-Admiral Fletcher has had at Vera Cruz for many weeks.

Rear-Admiral Badger, with the first ships of the Atlantic Fleet, reached Vera Cruz to-night, having been diverted from Tampico, where only the cruiser Des Moines remains.

The air had been filled with all sorts of sensational rumors during the day. Officials were nervously expectant. State Department advices late in the day made no mention of fighting, but spoke of an evacuation by the Federal garrison.

Rear-Admiral Fletcher's report came in quick time from Vera Cruz, however, describing briefly what had taken place. Cabinet Secretaries who discussed Fletcher's report with President Wilson, for nearly an hour, showed by their demeanor that the loss of life and bloodshed had affected them greatly.

### NO FURTHER STEPS AT PRESENT.

Information which came from sources close to the Cabinet council indicated that the President exercised self-restraint and calmly determined that, with the seizure of Vera Cruz and the prevention of shipments of arms from reaching Huerta, further steps would not be taken by the American government for the present. The future depends upon action by the Huerta authorities. Secretary Garrison announced emphatically that no troop movements had been ordered.

Officials did not believe Huerta would take offensive steps, but it he does the American marines and bluejackets, which will be assembled in Vera Cruz within forty-eight hours, will number about 15,000. Estimates here place the Huerta forces at Mexico City at about 3,000 or 4,000 men, and army and navy officers believe the American forces, if necessary, would be able to reach the Mexican capital without serious difficulty.

The bulk of General Huerta's army is in the north, fighting the Constitutionalists.

Just what was the purpose of diverting Rear-Admiral Badger from Tampico to Vera Cruz has not been made known, but as it leaves Tampico with one American ship, it is believed here the Constitutionalists are making ready to take the port.

Rear-Admiral Badger, on being ordered to proceed direct to Vera Cruz, ordered also diverted the fourteen torpedo destroyers to Vera Cruz. These will be of much use in approaching close to the town, and in blockade duty.

### FOREIGN AMBASSADORS SUMMONED.

The foreign ambassadors in Washington were summoned during the day by Secretary Bryan and informed of developments. The German, French, British, Austrian, Japanese and Spanish ambassadors had separate conferences with Mr. Bryan. Later the Chinese minister talked with the secretary. All declined to talk, but it is understood they were given the same information transmitted to American embassies and legations, being especially told that the

(Continued on Eighth Page.)